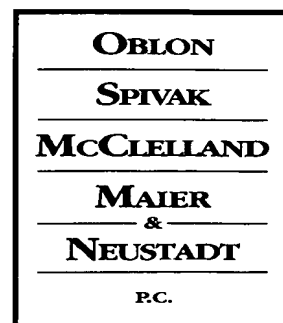




IFW



Docket No.: 243395US6

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/674,458

Applicants: Yosuke TAMURA

Filing Date: October 1, 2003

For: DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM, INFORMATION  
PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD, AND  
COMPUTER PROGRAM

Group Art Unit: 2165

Examiner: Farhan M. Syed

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Our check in the amount of **\$0.00** is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
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DOCKET NO: 243395US6



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
YOSUKE TAMURA : EXAMINER: FARHAN M. SYED  
SERIAL NO: 10/674,458 :  
FILED: OCTOBER 1, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2165  
FOR: DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM, :  
INFORMATION PROCESSING  
APPARATUS AND METHOD, AND  
COMPUTER PROGRAM

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement stated in the Official Action dated March 23, 2006, Applicant in the above-identified patent application provisionally elects Group I, Claims 1-6, drawn to a data processing system comprising a plurality of chain managers for performing control of a data input and/or data output service.

The Restriction Requirement asserts that the application contains claims to distinct inventions. However, MPEP §803 states the following:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be of an overlapping search area.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully **traverses** the Restriction Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

However, if the present Restriction Requirement is not withdrawn, examination on the merits of the Claims of Group I is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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